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ABSTRACT

This research note reviews an analysis of Moraine Valley Community College nonpersisting students for fall 1977 and spring 1978. Information is provided on trends in transfer and occupational student retention by semester from spring 1970 through fall/spring 1977-78, and on fall 1977 and spring 1978 persister and nonpersister characteristics. Of persisters, 46% were males; 47% were aged 19-21, 12% aged 22-24, 8% aged 25-27, and 32% aged 28 or over; of credit hours, 4% earned none, 46% earned 0.1-15.0, 21% earned 15.1-30.0, 15% earned 30.1-45.0, and 14% over 45.1; 47% were occupational vs. 53% transfer students; 49% attended local public high schools, 13% attended local private high schools; 54% had a grade point average over 3.0, 36% had a grade point average over 2.0, and 10% less than 2.0. Data on credit hours attempted is also provided. Of nonpersisters, 44% were male; 34% were aged 19-21, 20% aged 22-24, 12% aged 25-27, and 33% over 28; of credit hours, 26% earned none, 47% earned 0.1-15.0, 11% earned 15.1-30.0, 16% earned over 30.0; 53% were occupational students and 47% were transfer students; 48% attended local public high schools and 11% attended private high schools; the grade point average of 40% was over 3.0, of 28% was over 2.0, of 6% was over 1.00 and 26% had a grade point average of 0.0. Retention rate by occupational program, and characteristics for full- vs. part-time nonpersisters are reported. (TE)

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Research Note

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NONPERSISTING STUDENT ANALYSIS

FOR

FALL 1977-SPRING 1978

By

Mary Kathryne Baratta
Office of Research and Evaluation
Moraine Valley Community College
April 1978

JC 780 371

Research Note

Prepared by Mary Kathryne Baratta
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Moraine Valley Community College

Re: Nonpersisting Student Analysis for Fall 1977-Spring 1978

Date: April 1978

Figure 1 displays MVCC's retention rate for transfer and occupational students since spring-fall 1970. Percentages reported for each semester were based on the number of students enrolled at the end of the fourth week of classes and the number of students who subsequently re-enrolled the following semester. Sixty-five percent of the students who were enrolled for the fall 1977 semester returned for the spring 1978 semester.

Comparing retention rates across the 16 time frames presented indicates that the retention rates for half of the time frames were lower than the retention rate for the current time frame (spring-fall 1970, spring-fall 1971, spring-fall 1972, spring-fall 1973, fall-spring 1974-75, spring-fall 1975, spring-fall 1976 and spring-fall 1977).

Comparing the eight fall-spring time frames indicates that one time frame, fall-spring 1974-75, had a lower retention rate 64% and one time frame, fall-spring 1973-74, had the same retention rate as the current time frame, 65%. The fall-spring retention rates ranged from 64% to 71%.

Table 1 displays the distribution of characteristics for fall-spring 1977-78 persisters and nonpersisters. Table 1a displays the population under study.

In general, retention rates for fall-spring are higher than the retention rates for spring-fall semesters. The F'77-S'78 retention rates were lower, in general, than that of the previous fall-spring retention rates.

The total male student enrollment in occupational and transfer curriculums for fall 1977 was 3,784 of that number 2,509 or 66% returned for the spring 1978 semester. The total female enrollment was 4,569 for the fall 1977 semester, of that number 2,924 or 64% returned for the spring 1978 semester. The retention rate for males was greater than the retention rate for females; this was also the case for the F'76-S'77 time frame. The retention rate for both males and females was lower for F'77-S'78 than for F'76-S'77.

An examination of the retention rate by age grouping indicates that students 19-21 years old have a higher retention rate than other age groups, 72%. This age group also had the highest retention rate for the F'76-S'77 time frame. Comparing the F'76-S'77 and F'77-S'78 time frames indicates that students older than 18 years of age had a lower retention rate for the current time frame; for 18 year olds the retention rates are identical.

Figure 1
Trend of Transfer and Occupational Student Retention
(Headcount)

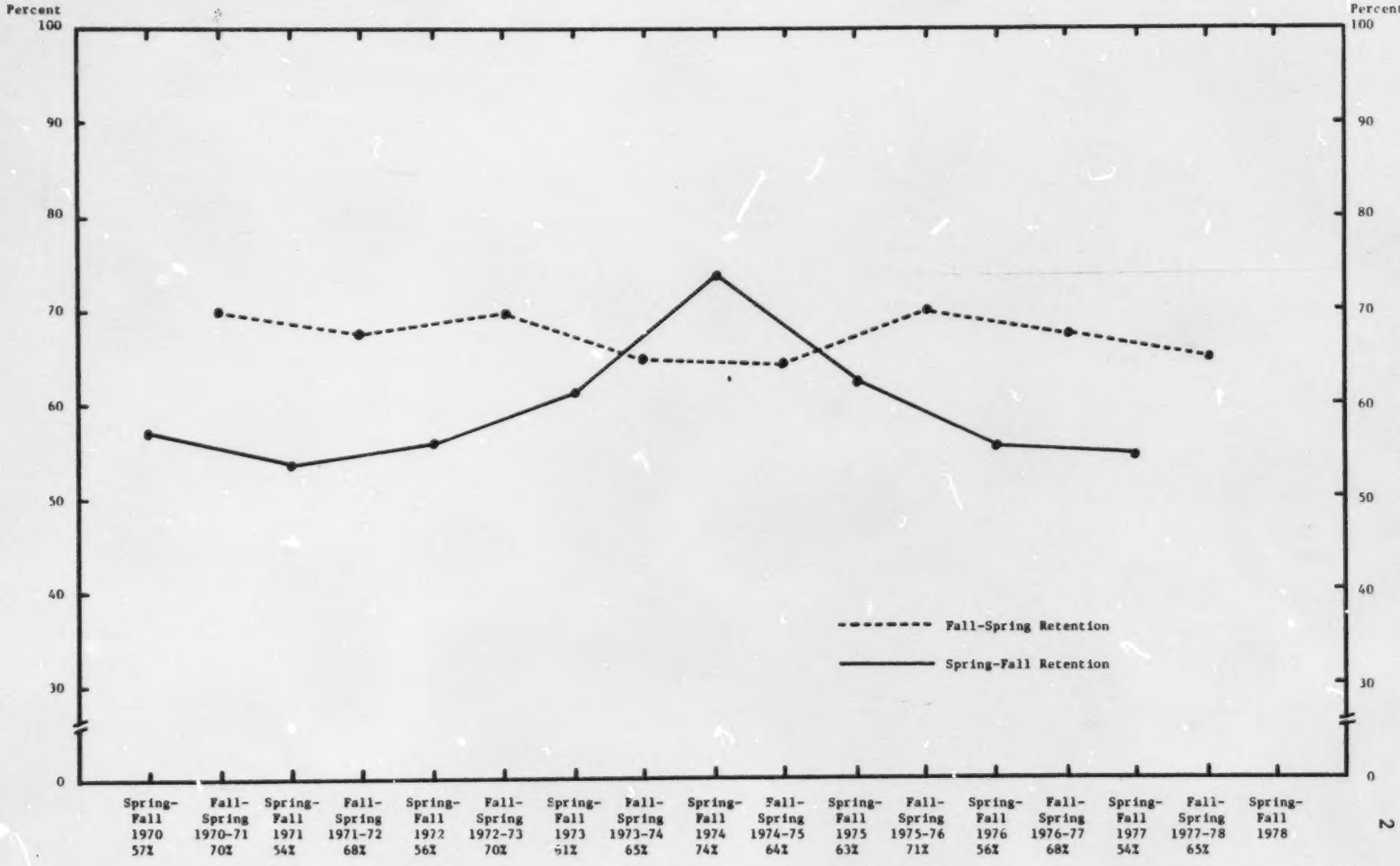

Table 1

Fall 1977-Spring 1978 Persister and Nonpersister Characteristics

Characteristics	F'77-S'78 Persisters N	%	F'77-S'78 Nonpersisters N	%	Retention Rates F'76-S'77	S'77-F'77	F'77-S'78
Sex							
Male	2,509	46%	1,275	44%	69%	52%	66%
Female	2,924	54	1,645	56	67	55	64
TOTAL	5,433	100%	2,920	100%			
Age							
Up to 18	48	1%	24	1%	67%	49%	67%
19-21	2,508	47	983	34	74	57	72
22-24	667	12	586	20	58	43	53
25-27	451	8	340	12	63	49	57
28 and up	1,731	32	950	33	67	59	65
TOTAL	5,405	100%	2,883	100%			
Cumulative Cr. Hrs. Earned							
None	228	4%	763	26%	26%	21%	23%
0.1-15.0	2,488	46	1,364	47	67	47	65
15.1-30.0	1,112	21	340	11	78	69	77
30.1-45.0	840	15	195	7	82	70	81
45.1 and up	765	14	258	9	84	56	75
TOTAL	5,433	100%	2,920	100%			
Major Area Code							
Occupational	2,548	47%	1,548	53%	65%	55%	62%
Transfer	2,885	53	1,372	47	72	52	68
TOTAL	5,433	100%	2,920	100%			
High School Code							
Local Public	2,416	49%	1,195	48%	71%	54%	67%
Local Private	620	13	269	11	72	52	70
Other	1,851	38	1,018	41	69	56	61
TOTAL	4,887	100%	2,482	100%			
Cumulative G.P.A.							
3.50-4.00	1,500	28%	572	20%	74%	60%	72%
3.00-3.49	1,431	26	567	20	76	60	72
2.50-2.99	1,075	20	378	13	77	61	74
2.00-2.49	865	16	444	15	76	51	66
1.50-1.99	242	4	101	3	45	55	71
1.00-1.49	92	2	95	3	45	30	49
0.0	228	4	763	26	45	23	23
TOTAL	5,433	100%	2,920	100%			
Cr. Hrs. Attempted							
0.5-3.4	860	16%	1,142	39%	44%	38%	43%
3.5-6.4	1,100	20	808	28	63	51	58
6.5-9.4	697	13	291	10	76	58	71
9.5-12.4	1,004	19	296	10	76	64	77
12.5-15.4	1,139	21	266	9	85	67	81
15.5 and up	624	11	101	4	86	63	86
TOTAL	5,424	100%	2,904	100%			

Table 1a

Total Population Studied

Sex	Number	Percent
Male	3,784	45%
Female	4,569	55
TOTAL	8,353	100%

Age		
Up to 18	72	1%
19-21	3,491	42
22-24	1,253	15
25-27	791	10
28 and up	2,681	32
TOTAL	8,288	100%

Cumulative Credit Hours Earned		
None	991	12%
0.1-15.0	3,852	46
15.1-30.0	1,452	17
30.1-45.0	1,035	13
45.1 and up	1,023	12
TOTAL	8,353	100%

Program		
Occupational	4,096	49%
Transfer	4,257	51
TOTAL	8,353	100%

High School Code	Number	Percent
Local Public	3,611	46%
Local Private	889	11
Other	3,434	43
TOTAL	7,934	100%

Grade Point Average		
3.50-4.00	2,072	25%
3.00-3.49	1,998	24
2.50-2.99	1,453	17
2.00-2.49	1,309	16
1.50-1.99	343	4
1.00-1.49	187	2
0.0	991	12
TOTAL	8,353	100%

Credit Hours Attempted		
0.5-3.4	2,002	24%
3.5-6.4	1,908	23
6.5-9.4	988	12
9.5-12.4	1,300	15
12.5-15.4	1,405	17
15.5 and up	725	9
TOTAL	8,328	100%

Eighty-one percent of those students earning 30.1-45.0 credit hours were retained in spring 1978. Twenty-three percent of those students earning no credit were retained from fall 1977 to spring 1978. The retention rates for F'77-S'78 were lower than those for the F'76-S'77 time frame.

The transfer retention rate, 68%, was higher than the occupational retention rate, 62%; this was also the case for the F'76-S'77 time frame. The F'76-S'77 time frame had higher retention rates for transfer and occupational students than the current time frame.

The retention rate by high school code indicates that more graduates of local private high schools were retained from fall 1977 to spring 1978 than local public high school graduates or graduates whose high schools were located out of the MVCC district.

If a students' cumulative grade point average was below 1.50 he/she would have a tendency not to continue his/her education the following semester (27% retention rate). The retention rates for the various categories ranged from 74% for a 2.50-2.99 grade point average to 23% for a 0.0 grade point average. With the exception of the 1.50-1.99 grade point average category all other categories had lower retention rates for F'77-S'78 than they did for F'76-S'77.

Occupational and transfer students who attempted up to 3.4 credit hours were more likely to discontinue their education the following semester (43% retention rate); this was also true for the F'76-S'77 time frame. The retention rates for other categories ranged from 58% to 86%.

An examination of curriculum indicated that 68% of all the transfer students who were enrolled in fall 1977 returned for the spring 1978 semester. Sixty-seven percent of all occupational students enrolled for fall 1977 returned for the spring 1978 semester. The retention rates for the major divisions of the occupational curriculum were: Business 63%, Health Science 85%, Public Service 67% and Technology 66%.

Table 2 displays the retention rates for each program. Students enrolled for the fall 1977 term who graduated were excluded from the analysis. The retention rates for programs ranged from 24% for Finance & Credit and Industrial Engineering Technology-C programs to 100% for Respiratory Therapy. The median retention rate was 68%. In general, the retention rates for fall-spring were higher than for spring to fall, exceptions occurred for Accounting & Computing, Finance & Credit, Industrial Engineering Technology-C, Nondestructive Evaluation and Welding.

Table 3 displays the characteristics of fall 1976-spring 1977, spring 1977-fall 1977 and fall 1977-spring 1978 nonpersisters. A comparison of F'76 S'77 and F'77-S'78 nonpersisters indicates the same distribution of characteristics.

A chi-square analysis was used to determine if any significant differences occurred for persisters and nonpersisters enrolled for the F'76-S'78 time frame.

Table 2

Nongraduates Enrolled for Fall 1977 and Spring 1978

Program	No. Enrolled Fall Term	No. Re-enrolled Spring Term	Retention Rates S'77-F'77	Retention Rates F'77-S'78
Data Processing Systems-C	14	9	38%	64%
Business Mid-Management	379	279	64	74
General Office Services-C	20	11	50	55
Secretarial Science	175	100	49	57
Marketing Mid-Management	69	50	61	72
Data Processing Systems	305	215	60	70
Accounting & Computing	267	150	57	56
Finance & Credit	121	29	39	24
Fashion Merchandising	64	44	55	69
General Office Services	27	18	42	67
Mechanical Design Drafting	3	2	0	67
Design Drafting	85	66	59	78
Industrial Supervision	50	33	66	66
Industrial Eng. Tech.	45	22	40	49
Electronics Technology	152	96	53	63
Power Machine Technology	101	76	62	75
Power Machine Technology-C	11	7	60	64
Industrial Eng. Tech.-C	17	4	29	24
Nondestructive Evaluation	5	3	100	60
Welding	37	21	100	57
Radioloigic Technology Tech.	48	45	66	94
Respiratory Therapy Tech.	25	25	75	100
Medical Laboratory Tech.	65	63	81	97
Operating Room Tech.-C	18	15	48	83
Medical Record Tech.	27	26	78	96
Nursing	196	147	74	75
Respiratory Therapy Tech.-C	9	7	78	78
Security & Loss Prevention	9	6	46	67
Therapeutic Recreation	54	42	78	78
Law Enforcement	430	293	63	68
Leisure Service Careers	41	28	66	68
Fire Science	118	54	39	46
Transportation	76	54	65	71
Child Care	174	128	69	74
Exceptional Education	103	59	43	57
Teacher/Library Assistance	49	41	70	84
Fire Science-C	8	7	44	88
Social Worker Associate	57	43	63	75
Liberal Arts, Transfer	1,000	667	50	67
Non-Transfer, Undecided	805	334	39	41
Business Transfer	780	596	60	76
Pre-Engineering, Transfer	117	96	62	82
Pre-Education, Transfer	108	71	50	66
Pre-Medicine	1,031	734	57	71
Liberal Arts, Undecided	1,037	607	46	59
General Studies, Developmental	19	9	27	47

Table 3

Fall 1976-Spring 1977, Spring 1977-Fall 1977 and Fall 1977-Spring 1978
Nonpersister Characteristics

Characteristics	F'76-S'77 N	F'76-S'77 %	S'77-F'77 N	S'77-F'77 %	F'77-S'78 N	F'77-S'78 %
Sex						
Male	1,189	46%	1,785	51%	1,275	44%
Female	1,410	54	1,744	49	1,645	56
TOTAL	2,599	100%	3,529	100%	2,920	100%
Age						
Up to 18	27	1%	105	3%	24	1%
19-21	836	33	1,338	38	983	34
22-24	517	20	656	19	586	20
25-27	277	11	388	11	340	12
28 and up	889	35	1,019	29	950	33
TOTAL	2,546	100%	3,506	100%	2,883	100%
Cumulative Credit Hours Earned						
None	705	27%	648	19%	763	26%
0.1-15.0	1,276	49	1,661	47	1,364	47
15.1-30.0	320	12	564	16	340	11
30.1-45.0	176	7	294	8	195	7
45.1 and up	122	5	362	10	258	9
TOTAL	2,599	100%	3,529	100%	2,920	100%
Major Area Code						
Occupational	1,489	59%	1,728	49%	1,548	53%
Transfer	1,037	41	1,801	51	1,372	47
TOTAL	2,526	100%	3,521	100%	2,920	100%
High School Code						
Local Public	985	49%	1,496	50%	1,195	48%
Local Private	211	11	349	12	269	11
Other	812	40	1,141	38	1,018	41
TOTAL	2,008	100%	2,986	100%	2,482	100%
Cumulative G.P.A.						
3.50-4.00	502	19%	734	21%	572	20%
3.00-3.49	455	18	723	21	567	19
2.50-2.99	322	12	525	15	378	13
2.00-2.49	192	7	635	18	444	15
1.50-1.99			154	4	101	4
1.00-1.49	1,128	44	108	3	95	3
0.0			648	18	763	26
TOTAL	2,599	100%	3,529	100%	2,920	100%
Credit Hours Attempted						
0.5-3.4	1,117	44%	1,249	35%	1,142	39%
3.5-6.4	621	24	820	23	808	28
6.5-9.4	502	20	412	12	291	10
9.5-12.4			420	12	296	10
12.5-15.4	200	8	362	10	266	9
15.5 and up	92	4	263	8	101	4
TOTAL	2,532	100%	3,526	100%	2,904	100%

The typical nonpersister was:

- female
- older than 21 years of age
- either a first semester freshman or a second semester sophomore
- enrolled in an occupational program
- had a cumulative G.P.A. in the range 2.00-2.49 or 0.0-1.49
- attempted up to 12.4 credit hours.

Nonpersisters were categorized as full-time or part-time in order to assess their respective characteristics. Table 4 displays the characteristics of F'76-S'77 and F'77-S'78 full-time nonpersisters, while Table 5 displays these characteristics for part-time nonpersisters.

The typical transfer nonpersisting student was:

- younger than 18 years of age or 22-27 years of age
- a first semester freshman
- a graduate from a local private high school
- achieved a G.P.A. of 0.0
- attempted 3.5-6.4 credit hours.

The typical occupational nonpersisting student was:

- female
- younger than 18 years of age or 22-27 years of age
- a first semester freshman
- achieved a G.P.A. less than 1.50
- attempted up to 3.4 credit hours.

An examination of occupational persisters and nonpersisters revealed that females enrolled in the non-transfer undecided program or the Technology programs were less likely to return for the spring 1978 semester. The typical male who did not return for the spring term was enrolled in the non-transfer undecided program.

Occupational persisters differed from nonpersisters in the 22-24 year old age category. The typical nonpersister for this age grouping was enrolled in a non-transfer undecided, Public Service or Business program. For all other age categories the typical occupational nonpersister was enrolled in the non-transfer undecided program.

Occupational nonpersisters who earned at least 45 credit hours or 15-30 credit hours, were less likely to return for the spring 1978 semester if they were enrolled in the non-transfer undecided, Public Service, Technology or Business programs. Nonpersisting occupational students who earned 30-45 credit hours were less likely to return to MVCC for the spring semester if they were enrolled in the non-transfer undecided, Public Service or Technology programs.

Students who earned a G.P.A. of at least 2.00 were less likely to return to MVCC the following semester if they were enrolled in the non-transfer undecided curriculum. Health Science students tended to withdraw from MVCC for the spring semester if their G.P.A. was in the range 1.99-2.49, for Business nonpersisters the typical G.P.A. was 2.99-3.49 and for Technology nonpersisters it was 3.49-4.00.

Table 4

Fall 1976-Spring 1977 and Fall 1977-Spring 1978
Full-Time Nonpersister Characteristics

Characteristics	F'76-S'77						F'77-S'78					
	Transfer		Occupational		Combined		Transfer		Occupational		Combined	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Sex												
Male	81	61%	90	56%	171	59%	121	50%	58	47%	179	49%
Female	51	39	70	44	121	41	122	50	66	53	188	51
TOTAL	132	100%	160	100%	292	100%	243	100%	124	100%	367	100%
Age												
Up to 18	0	0%	1	1%	1	1%	3	1%	2	2%	5	1%
19-21	97	73	113	72	210	72	167	69	76	62	243	67
22-24	23	17	21	13	44	15	45	19	19	16	64	17
25-27	6	5	7	4	13	4	15	6	5	4	20	6
28 and up	6	5	16	10	22	8	13	5	20	16	33	9
TOTAL	132	100%	158	100%	290	100%	243	100%	122	100%	365	100%
Cumulative Cr. Hrs. Earned												
None	36	27%	49	31%	85	29%	50	21%	30	24%	80	22%
0.1-15.0	43	33	62	39	105	36	78	32	42	34	122	34
15.1-30.0	24	18	23	14	47	16	40	17	20	16	60	16
30.1-45.0	18	14	15	9	33	11	29	12	16	13	45	12
45.1 and up	11	8	11	7	22	8	44	18	16	13	60	16
TOTAL	132	100%	160	100%	292	100%	241	100%	124	100%	367	100%
High School Code												
Local Public	83	71%	92	65%	175	68%	138	61%	57	49%	195	57%
Local Private	15	13	18	13	33	13	46	20	17	15	63	18
Other	19	16	31	22	50	19	44	19	42	36	86	25
TOTAL	117	100%	141	100%	258	100%	228	100%	116	100%	344	100%
Cumulative G.P.A.												
3.50-4.00	14	11%	19	12%	33	11%	34	14%	18	15%	52	14%
3.00-3.49	22	17	13	8	35	12	40	16	24	19	64	18
2.50-2.99	20	15	26	16	46	16	51	21	23	19	74	20
2.00-2.49	12	9	20	13	32	11	43	18	17	14	60	16
1.50-1.99							15	6	8	6	23	6
1.00-1.49	64	48	82	51	146	50	10	4	4	3	14	4
0.0							50	21	30	24	80	22
TOTAL	132	100%	160	100%	292	100%	243	100%	124	100%	367	100%
Credit Hours Attempted												
15.5 and above	46	35%	46	29%	92	32%	72	30%	29	23%	101	27%
12.5-15.4	86	65	114	71	200	68	171	70	95	77	266	73
TOTAL	132	100%	160	100%	292	100%	243	100%	124	100%	367	100%
Major Area Code												
Occupational	-	-	-	-	121	41%	-	-	-	-	124	34%
Transfer	-	-	-	-	171	59	-	-	-	-	243	66
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	292	100%	-	-	-	-	367	100%

Table 5

Fall 1976-Spring 1977 and Fall 1977-Spring 1978
Part-Time Nonpersister Characteristics

Characteristics	F'76-S'77 Transfer N	%	Occupational N	%	Combined N	%	F'77-S'78 Transfer N	%	Occupational N	%	Combined N	%
Sex												
Male	290	42%	691	45%	981	44%	520	47%	564	40%	1,084	43%
Female	399	58	860	55	1,259	56	591	53	862	60	1,453	57
TOTAL	689	100%	1,551	100%	2,240	100%	1,111	100%	1,426	100%	2,537	100%
Age												
Up to 18	7	1%	19	1%	26	1%	14	1%	5	0%	19	1%
19-21	250	37	356	24	606	28	384	35	353	25	737	29
22-24	167	24	292	19	459	21	247	22	272	20	519	21
25-27	61	9	193	13	254	12	157	14	161	12	318	13
28 and up	198	29	646	43	844	38	313	28	596	43	909	36
TOTAL	683	100%	1,506	100%	2,189	100%	1,115	100%	1,387	100%	2,502	100%
Cumulative Credit Hours Earned												
None	250	36%	345	22%	595	27%	289	26%	392	28%	681	27%
0.1-15.0	280	41	867	56	1,147	51	525	47	709	50	1,234	49
15.1-30.0	83	12	181	12	264	12	130	11	148	10	278	11
30.1-45.0	49	7	87	6	136	6	76	7	74	5	150	6
45.1 and up	27	4	71	4	98	4	101	9	93	7	194	7
TOTAL	689	100%	1,551	100%	2,240	100%	1,121	100%	1,416	100%	2,537	100%
Cr. Hrs. Attempted												
9.5-12.4	170	26%	332	21%	502	22%	160	14%	136	10%	296	12%
6.5-9.4							157	14	134	9	291	11
3.5-6.4	162	25	459	29	621	28	383	34	425	30	808	32
0.5-3.4	313	49	804	50	1,117	50	421	38	721	51	1,142	45
TOTAL	645	100%	1,595	100%	2,240	100%	1,121	100%	1,416	100%	2,537	100%
High School Code												
Local Public	321	52%	489	43%	810	46%	495	48%	499	45%	994	47%
Local Private	73	12	105	9	178	10	119	12	87	8	206	10
Other	221	36	541	48	762	44	410	40	514	47	924	43
TOTAL	615	100%	1,135	100%	1,750	100%	1,024	100%	1,100	100%	2,124	100%
Cumulative G.P.A.												
3.50-4.00	115	17%	340	22%	455	20%	207	19%	302	21%	509	20%
3.00-3.49	98	14	315	20	413	18	204	18	297	21	501	20
2.50-2.99	84	12	183	12	267	12	147	13	156	11	303	12
2.00-2.49	49	7	104	7	153	7	186	17	198	14	384	15
1.50-1.99							50	4	28	2	78	3
1.00-1.49	343	50	609	39	952	43	38	3	43	3	81	3
0.0							289	26	392	28	681	27
TOTAL	689	100%	1,551	100%	2,240	100%	1,121	100%	1,416	100%	2,537	100%
Major Area Code												
Occupational	-	-	-	-	1,333	60%	-	-	-	-	1,416	56%
Transfer	-	-	-	-	907	40	-	-	-	-	1,121	44
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	2,240	100%	-	-	-	-	2,537	100%

Occupational students enrolled in a non-transfer undecided program, tended to leave MVCC the following semester regardless of the type of high school they attended. Graduates of local parochial schools tended to withdraw from MVCC the following semester if they were enrolled in Public Service, Technology or Business programs.

An examination of all female occupational nonpersisters revealed that 39% of the women were enrolled in Business programs and 34% were enrolled in the non-transfer undecided category. Male occupational nonpersisters, on the other hand, were evenly distributed in Business, Public Service, Technology and non-transfer undecided programs. Females generally attempted up to 3.4 credit hours while males attempted up to 6.4 credit hours.

Thirty-four percent of occupational nonpersisters who are at least 28 years of age were enrolled in the non-transfer undecided curriculum and 32% were enrolled in Business programs. Typically they enrolled for 0.5-3.4 credit hours. The same holds true for 25-27 year olds. Occupational nonpersisters up to 25 years of age were enrolled in Business, Public Service and non-transfer undecided programs. These students were generally enrolled for at most 6.4 credit hours.

Occupational nonpersisters who earned at least 15 credit hours were enrolled in Public Service and Business programs. They attempted up to 9.4 credit hours. Students who earned at most 14.9 credit hours were enrolled in Business and non-transfer undecided programs. These students typically attempted up to 3.4 credit hours.

Nonpersisting students who earned zero credit hours were typically enrolled in the non-transfer undecided category and attempted at most 3.4 credit hours. Generally a student with a G.P.A. in the range 0.01-0.99 was enrolled in a Business or non-transfer undecided program and attempted up to 6.4 credit hours. Occupational nonpersisting students with G.P.A.'s greater than 1.0 were typically enrolled in Business, Public Service and non-transfer undecided programs and attempted at most 6.4 credit hours.

The typical full-time nonpersisting student was:

- up to 18 years of age or older than 22 years of age
- a first semester freshman
- achieved a G.P.A. of 0.0
- attempted 12.5-15.4 credit hours.

The typical part-time nonpersister was:

- up to 18 years of age or older than 22 years of age
- a first semester freshman
- achieved a G.P.A. less than 1.50
- attempted up to 6.4 credit hours.

In order to assess the specific characteristics of nonpersisting students, the data was divided into four categories: full-time transfer, full-time occupational, part-time transfer and part-time occupational students.

The typical F'77-S'78 full-time transfer nonpersister was:

- up to 18 years of age or older than 22 years of age
- a first semester freshman
- achieved a G.P.A. of 0.0
- attempted 12.5-15.4 credit hours.

The typical full-time occupational nonpersisting student was:

- a first semester freshman
- a graduate from either a local private high school or an out-of-district high school
- earned a G.P.A. less than 1.49
- attempted 12.5-15.4 credit hours.

An examination of full-time occupational persisters and nonpersisters revealed that females enrolled in the non-transfer undecided program were less likely to return for the spring 1978 semester.

Full-time occupational persisters differed from nonpersisters in the 19-24 year old age category. The typical nonpersister for this age category was enrolled in the non-transfer undecided program. The nonpersisters in the 28 years of age or older category were enrolled in Technology programs; for all other age categories persisters did not differ from nonpersisters.

Occupational nonpersisters who earned at least 45 credit hours were less likely to return for the spring 1978 semester if they were enrolled in Public Service programs.

The typical part-time transfer nonpersisting student was:

- male
- under 18 years of age or 22-27 years of age
- a first semester freshman
- achieved a G.P.A. of 0.0
- attempted 3.5-6.4 credit hours.

The typical part-time occupational nonpersisting student was:

- female
- a first semester freshman
- achieved a G.P.A. of less than 1.50
- attempted up to 3.4 credit hours.

An examination of part-time occupational persisters and nonpersisters revealed that females enrolled in the non-transfer undecided or the Technology programs were less likely to return for the spring 1978 semester. The typical male who did not return for the spring semester was enrolled in the non-transfer undecided program.

Part-time occupational nonpersisters who were at least 28 years of age and who did not return in the spring were typically enrolled in the non-transfer undecided, Technology or Health Science programs. For the 19-21 or 25-27 age groups, part-time occupational nonpersisters were less likely to return

for the spring 1978 semester if they were enrolled in the non-transfer undecided program. Students in the 22-24 year age group tended not to return for the spring semester if they were enrolled in the non-transfer undecided, Public Service, Technology or Business programs.

Part-time occupational nonpersisters who earned at least 45 credit hours were less likely to return for the spring 1978 semester if they were enrolled in the non-transfer undecided, Public Service, Technology or Business programs. Nonpersisting part-time occupational students who earned 30-45 credit hours were less likely to return to MVCC for the spring term if they were enrolled in the non-transfer undecided or Public Service programs. Students who earned 1-15 credit hours were less likely to re-enroll if they were enrolled in the non-transfer undecided or Health Science programs.

Graduates from local public or out-of-district high schools were less likely to re-enroll at MVCC if they were enrolled part-time in the non-transfer undecided program. Local private high school graduates enrolled in Business programs part-time were less likely to return for the spring 1978 semester.

If a part-time occupational students' G.P.A. was in the 2.00-2.50 range, he/she would be less likely to return to MVCC if he/she were enrolled in non-transfer undecided, Public Service or Health Science programs. Occupational nonpersisters whose G.P.A. was in the range 2.50-3.00 were more likely to be enrolled in non-transfer undecided, Technology or Health Science programs. For the 3.00-3.50 grade range, nonpersisting students were typically enrolled in non-transfer undecided, Public Service, Technology and Business programs. For G.P.A.'s above 3.50, part-time nonpersisting occupational students were typically enrolled in non-transfer undecided, Public Service and Technology programs.

Fifty-three percent of all female and 44% of all male nonpersisters were part-time occupational students. Thirty-six percent of all female and 41% of all male nonpersisters were part-time transfer students.

Twenty-six percent of the nonpersisters earned no credit; 80 or 10% were full-time and 693 or 90% were part-time. Table 6 displays the characteristics of nonpersisters earning no credit.

There were no distinguishing characteristics between zero credit hour earned persisters and nonpersisters. The typical F'77-S'78 transfer nonpersister who did not earn credit attempted up to 6.4 credit hours or 9.5-12.4 credit hours. The typical occupational nonpersister who earned zero credit hours attempted up to 6.4 credit hours.

An examination of occupational students who earned zero credit hours shows that if they graduated from high schools outside the MVCC district, they were less likely to return to MVCC for the spring semester if they were enrolled in the non-transfer undecided or Technology programs.

The zero credit hour earned nonpersisting females were mainly undecided as to their program of study. Nonpersisting zero credit hour earned males were generally enrolled in Business programs or were undecided as to their field of study.

Table 6

Fall 1976-Spring 1977 and Fall 1977-Spring 1978
Nonpersister Characteristics of Those Students Not Earning Credit

Characteristics	F'76-S'77		F'77-S'78 Combined		F'77-S'78 Transfer		F'77-S'78 Occupational	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Sex								
Male	333	47%	339	43%	168	49%	171	41%
Female	372	53	424	57	173	51	251	59
TOTAL	705	100%	763	100%	341	100%	422	100%
Age								
Up to 18	11	2%	12	2%	8	2%	4	1%
19-21	317	46	320	43	169	50	151	37
22-24	108	16	152	20	70	21	82	20
25-27	64	9	79	11	35	10	44	11
28 and up	186	27	183	24	56	17	127	31
TOTAL	686	100%	746	100%	338	100%	408	100%
Major Area Code								
Occupational	403	57%	423	55%	-	-	-	-
Transfer	302	43	340	45	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	705	100%	763	100%	-	-	-	-
High School Code								
Local Public	274	52%	308	47%	157	51%	151	45%
Local Private	59	11	69	11	41	13	28	8
Other	198	37	274	42	113	36	161	47
TOTAL	531	100%	651	100%	311	100%	340	100%
Credit Hours Attempted								
15.5+	20	3%	16	2%	10	3%	6	1%
12.5-15.4	65	10	64	8	40	12	24	6
9.5-12.4	127	19	60	8	34	10	26	6
6.5-9.4			65	9	37	11	28	7
3.5-6.4	146	21	220	29	105	31	115	27
0.5-3.4	322	47	336	44	113	33	223	53
TOTAL	680	100%	761	100%	339	100%	422	100%

Adults at least 25 years of age who earned no credit were generally undecided about their occupational program of study. Those adults less than 25 years of age were enrolled either in Business programs or were undecided as to their occupational field of study.

Those occupational students earning no credit were generally enrolled in Business programs or were undecided as to their specific program area.

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